RAÚL M. GRIJALVA 3rd District, Arizona

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR Higher Education And Workforce Investment Subcommittee

CIVIL RIGHTS AND HUMAN SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE
CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS
CHAIR EMERITUS

Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-0307

WEBSITE: http://grijalva.house.gov/

1511 Longworth HOB Washington, DC 20515 Phone (202) 225-2435 | Fax (202) 225-1541

101 W. Irvington Rd., BLDG. 4 Tucson, AZ 85714 Phone (520) 622-6788 Fax (520) 622-0198

146 N. State Ave. P.O. Box 4105 Somerton, AZ 85350 Phone (928) 343-7933 | Fax (928) 343-7949

1412 N. Central Ave., Suite B Avondale, AZ 85323 Phone (623) 536-3388 | Fax (623) 535-7479

FACEBOOK: Facebook.com/Rep.Grijalva TWITTER: Twittercom/RepRaulGrijalva INSTAGRAM: Instagram.com/RepRaulGrijalva

April 25, 2021

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro Chairwoman U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on LHHS The Honorable Tom Cole Ranking Member U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on LHHS

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole,

I am requesting \$184,595 under HRSA Equipment and Health Professions Education and Workforce Development categories for Clínica Amistad in fiscal year 2022.

This proposal requests \$152,615 for replacement of outdated, often second-hand donations of clinic equipment. Unprecedented demand for services has caused an increased depreciation of current equipment which has been in steady decline after 19 years of use. With the increase in patient load and more difficult cases, and the rising cost to outsource lab work, tests, and imaging, the clinic is in desperate need of new diagnostic equipment. Clínica Amistad has provided a complete budget breakdown that includes items that meet the criteria of capital equipment and expenses under their accounting policies, and that the items all have a useful life of greater than a year. These items include urgently needed clinical items such as new exam tables, EKG and ultrasound machines, items such as a new vehicle, that will allow them to expand in-home services. Currently, the demand for in-home services in Arizona is extraordinary.

Additionally, the proposal requests \$31,980 for workforce training expenses as Amistad y Salud provides students with workforce training and invaluable health care experience while preparing them to meet the needs of our community. Volunteers are trained to record vital signs, manage medical records, and shadow health care providers. They also develop Spanish-English medical interpretations skills through their patient interactions. Amistad y Salud invests in the future of southern Arizona with our workforce training program that prepares the next generation of health professionals through an inter-professional approach. The workforce program will include:

- Co-funding medical interns and fellows in partnership with the University of Arizona. The applicants to this program are dedicated to helping our underserved patients. This proposal would guarantee funding for 20 fellows to participate in this program.
- A recently launched, aggressive diabetes prevention program which is designed to prevent or delay type 2 diabetes. Based on the CDC-recognized lifestyle change program, we must have Lifestyle Coaches who are trained to use a CDC-approved curriculum. Training for this year would include four Lifestyle Coaches and one Master Trainer.

- Training of 100 volunteers on a newly granted Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and lifesaving CPR skills by spring 2022, increasing their value to the labor force.
- Training of 20 volunteers on Electronic Medical Records System (EMR).

Clínica Amistad, a project of Amistad Y Salud, has provided free health care services to those in need for over 19 years. They provide free primary and preventative care for those who have fallen through the cracks and do not have other means of accessing health care. Most of their patients are low-income individuals living below the poverty line, and 96.7% of the patients identify as Hispanic, black/African American, Asian, American Indian, or Alaska Native. The clinic is run by a small staff, 57 credentialed volunteers and 134 student and community volunteers who have supported our organization with 8100+ hours of service (FY2019-20).

Since its inception, Clínica Amistad's mission has been rooted in human rights and gender equality/perspectives. With this proposal, Amistad y Salud will be equipped to bring our patient care to the next level and deliver Primary Care services to more patients in need. The goal of Clínica Amistad is to assist at-risk individuals within our community to achieve and maintain optimal health and wellness regardless of their financial limitations. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds as inability to access consistent health care often causes individuals with chronic conditions, such as hypertension or diabetes, to lose control of their disease. Instability in care can also prevent individuals from receiving important early screening for treatable conditions, which can cause poorer health outcomes, such as an increased likelihood of mortality.

I appreciate your time and consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

Raúl M. Grijalva Member of Congress

Raul M. Hijalva